

The Hongkong Telegraph.

ESTABLISHED 1881.

THE UNITED ASBESTOS
ORIENTAL AGENCY.
Sole Agents for the
UNITED ASBESTOS COM-
PANY, LTD., LONDON.
DODWELL, CARLILL & CO.
General Agents.

NEW SERIES NO. 1098. 日八月一十年四十二緒光

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1898.

五拜禮 號十三月三十英港香

THIRTY DOLLARS
PER ANNUM.

Banks.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.
ESTABLISHED 1880.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL..... Yen 13,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL..... 10,000,000
RESERVE FUND..... 6,000,000

Head Office: YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies.

KOBE..... NEW YORK.
LONDON..... LYONS.
SAN FRANCISCO, HONOLULU,
BOMBAY..... SHANGHAI.

LONDON BANKERS: THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LTD.

PARKS' BANK, LTD.

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, LTD.

HONGKONG AGENT:—INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent.

per Annum on the Daily Balance.

On fixed Deposits for 12 months at 5 per cent.

6 " 4 "

3 " 3 "

S. CHOI, Agent.

Hongkong, 3rd October, 1898. [382]

IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA.

ESTABLISHED BY IMPERIAL DECREE
OF THE 12TH NOVEMBER, 1896.

Shanghai Taels.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL..... 5,000,000

PAID-UP CAPITAL..... 2,500,000

Head Office: SHANGHAI.

Branches and Agencies.

CANTON..... HANKOW.
CHIEFOO..... PEKING.
CHINKIANG..... SWATOW.
FOOCHOW..... TIENSIN.

THE Bank purchases and receives for collection Bills of Exchange drawn on the above places and sells Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers Payable at its Branches and Agencies.

HONGKONG BRANCH.

Advances made on approved securities.

Bills discounted.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

3 per Annum. Fixed Deposits for 3 months.

6 "

12 "

E. W. RUTTER,
Acting Manager.

Hongkong, 15th October, 1898. [1237]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,
LIMITED.

Authorised Capital..... £1,000,000

Paid up Capital..... £34,374

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Court of Directors:

D. Gillies, Esq. Chow Tung Shang, Esq.

Chan Kit Shan, Esq. Kwan Hoi Chuen, Esq.

Chief Manager:

G. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Interest for 12 months—Fixed, 5 per Cent.

On Current Account, Daily Balances 2 per Cent. per Annum.

Hongkong, 30th November, 1897. [38]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL..... \$10,000,000

RESERVE FUND..... \$ 9,000,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIORS \$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:

Hon. J. J. BELL-IRVING, Chairman.

R. M. GRAY, Deputy Chairman.

C. Behrman, Esq.

David Gibbey, Esq. A. L. Raymond, Esq.

A. Haupi, Esq. P. Sachie, Esq.

R. H. Hill, Esq. R. Shawan, Esq.

A. McConchie, Esq. N. A. Siebs, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:

Hongkong—T. JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER:

Shanghai—J. P. WADE GARDNER, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY
BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Account at the rate of 2 per Cent.

per Annum on the daily balance.

INTEREST OF FIXED DEPOSITS:

For 3 months, 3 per Cent. per Annum.

For 6 months, 3.5 per Cent. per Annum.

For 12 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 15th August, 1898. [39]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ PER CENT. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1898. [10]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,
AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.

HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP..... £300,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS..... £800,000

RESERVE FUND..... £450,000

INTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT
ACCOUNT at the Rate of 2 per cent. per

annum on the Daily Balance.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months... 4 per cent.

6 " 3 "

3 " 2 "

T. H. WHITEHEAD,

Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 24th May, 1898. [31]

Intimations.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM
NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR STEAMERS CAPTAINS TO SAIL REMARKS
Straits, &c. Peshawar..... F. W. Vibert, R.N.R. Noon, 4th Jan. Freight only.
London, &c. Pernambuco..... C. F. Preston, R.N.R. Noon, 7th Jan. Freight or Passage.
Japan..... Roetta*..... E. P. Bishop..... 5 P.M., 7th Jan. Freight or Passage.
Shanghai..... Bengal..... S. Barcham..... About 7th Jan. Freight or Passage.
Japan..... Socoira*..... T. H. Hide, R.N.R. About 12th Jan. Freight only.
London..... Japan..... G. K. Wright, R.N.R. About 19th Jan. Freight or Passage.
* (Passing through the Inland Sea). [5]

For Further Particulars apply to

H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1898.

Intimations.

UNITED ASBESTOS ORIENTAL
AGENCY, LIMITED.

SOLE AGENTS IN
HONGKONG, CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS,
FOR THE
UNITED ASBESTOS CO., LTD., LONDON,
CONTRACTORS TO H.M. GOVERNMENT.
MANUFACTURERS OF THE
Best Qualities of ASBESTOS GOODS and PACKINGS.
HYDRAULIC and SELF LUBRICATING PUMP PACKINGS of all kinds.
"VICTOR" METALLIC BOILER JOINTS.
ASBESTOS SALAMANDER BOILER COVERING COMPOSITION of the best qualities.
ESTIMATES given for every DESCRIPTION of WORK.

SUPERINTENDENT..... THOS. SKINNER,
DODWELL, CARLILL & CO., General Agents.

PEAK HOTEL

AND

CRAIGIEBURN.

THE PEAK HOTEL is situated at VICTORIA GAP, adjoining the TRAMWAY TERMINUS, 1,350 feet above sea Level.

CRAIGIEBURN is situated at PLUNKETT'S GAP, five minutes walk from the PEAK HOTEL.

Fine Healthy location, beautiful variety of scenery. Cool Southerly breezes in Summer. Well appointed rooms, attentive service and excellent Cuisine.

CITY OFFICE, 7, Duddell Street, Hongkong, 29th December, 1898.

GEO. J. CASANQVA,
Manager.

[28]

ROBERTSON SANDERSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

LEITH.

CELEBRATED SCOTCH WHISKIES.

	Per Case.
" GLENLEITH'S BRAND	\$10
" SECOND TO NONE"	12
" MOUNTAIN DEW"	12
LIQUEUR WHISKY	12

All the above brands we guarantee to be pure Malt-Whiskies. The differences in price are regulated by the age of the Whisky. The "Second to None," "Mountain Dew" and Liqueur Whisky are all over ten years old.

SOLE AGENTS FOR HONGKONG AND SOUTHERN PORTS OF CHINA.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 19th May, 1898. [66]

JUST ARRIVED.

EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES

FROM THE WELL KNOWN MANUFACTURERS
ANGLO EGYPTIAN CIGARETTE CO., CAIRO.

BRANDS:	In tins of:	Price per tin:
SULTANS	100	\$2.00
PACHAS	100	2.50

UNEQUALLED AIR TIGHT HERMETICALLY SEALED TINS.

W. BREWER & CO., UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL.

Hongkong, 12th October, 1898. [1233]

PETER SYS' WONDERFUL SPECIFIC.

THE only remedy at present known as an INFALLIBLE and PERMANENT CURE for SPRUE, DYSENTRY, DIARRHEA, HEMORRHAGE and ULCERATION of the BOWELS.

Recommended by some of the Chief Specialists of the Medical Profession.

Sold retail by all Chemists and Wholesalers

by THE PETER SYS COMPANY,
(Proprietors and Sole Manufacturers),

9, Old China Street, Shanghai.

12th October, 1898. [1242]

THE PHARMACY.

HAVE NOW A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF ATKINSON'S PERFUMES AND ARE SOLE MANUFACTURERS OF

WHITE HEATHER BOUQUET.

Sole Agents for VIN P

To-day's
Advertisements.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION
SHORT RANGE CUP AND SPOONS
THERE will be a COMPETITION for
above TO-MORROW (SATURDAY),
the 31st instant, at 3 P.M.
RANGES—500 and 600 yards.
Ten shots and one sighter.
Entrance fee for Spoons 30 cents.
MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE,
Hon. Sec.
Hongkong, 30th December, 1898. [135]

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

INFORMATION has been received from the Military Authorities that ARTILLERY PRACTICE will take place from the several Forts in this Colony, between the 2nd and 23rd of January, 1899, as follows:

From North Point in Northward and North-Easterly directions.

From Kowloon Dock and East in Easterly and South-Easterly directions.

From Lytton in North-Westerly and South-Easterly directions.

From Stone Cutters' Island in Westerly and South-Westerly directions.

From Belcher's in Northward and Westerly directions.

All Ships, Junks, and other Vessels are cautioned to keep clear of the ranges.

The inhabitants of the houses near Belcher's, Kowloon Dock and East, and at Stone Cutters' Island are warned to keep their glass windows open during the PRACTICE, and all people working in the vicinity of Belcher's Batteries are also warned to keep clear of that part which will be indicated by gunners placed on sentry for the purpose.

By Command,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 30th December, 1898. [134]

THE WANCHAI WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the EIGHTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the OFFICE of the General Managers, No. 5, Queen's Road Central, on MONDAY, the 16th January, 1899, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of receiving the report of the General Managers, together with a statement accounts to the 31st December, 1898.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 7th to 16th January, 1899, both days inclusive.

MEYER & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 30th December, 1898. [1542]

NEW YEAR CARDS.

JUST opened a small parcel of NEW YEAR CARDS of very pretty designs.
H. RUTTNER, JEE,
13 & 15, D'Aguilar Street,
Hongkong, and
21 & 22, Elgin Road, Kowloon.
Hongkong, 30th December, 1898. [1543]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SHANGHAI.
THE Company's Steamship
"TIENTSIEN,"

Captain Dawson, will be despatched as above TO-MORROW, the 31st instant, at 3 P.M.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 30th December, 1898. [1539]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship
"POLYPHEMUS."

Captain Robinson, will be despatched as above on SUNDAY, the 1st January, at Daylight.
For Freight, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 30th December, 1898. [1540]

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship
"KOH-I-NUR,"
Captain H. Elliott, will be despatched for the above Ports, on WEDNESDAY, the 4th January, at Noon, instead of as previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 30th December, 1898. [1536]

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

THE departure of the Company's Steamship
"PRINZ HEINRICH,"
carrying the German Mails for Europe, &c., is POSTPONED to FRIDAY, the 6th January, 1899, at 9 A.M.
For further Particulars, apply to
MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 30th December, 1898. [1436]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship
"DIOMEA,"

Captain Bartlett, will be despatched as above on TUESDAY, the 10th January.
For Freight, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 30th December, 1898. [1541]

WORTH A GUINEA A BOX.

BEECHAM'S PILLS

FOR ALL
BILIOUS AND NERVOUS DISORDERS
SUCH AS
SICK HEADACHE, CONSTIPATION,
WEAK STOMACH,
IMPAIRED DIGESTION,
DISORDERED LIVER,
AND FEMALE AILMENTS.

ANNUAL SALE SIX MILLION BOXES.

5 Cents per Box.

Prepared only by the Proprietor—

THOMAS BEECHAM, St. Helens, England,
SOLE AGENTS for HONGKONG and the
EMPIRE OF CHINA—

WATKINS & CO.,
APOTHECARY'S HALL, 66, Queen's Road
Central, Hongkong. [1548]

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & Co.
LTD.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.
ESTABLISHED 1841.

SCOTCH WHISKY.

Per Case
1 Doz.

A.—THORNE'S BLEND, White
Capsule \$10.80

B.—WATSON'S GLENORCHY
MELLOW BLEND, Blue
Capsule, with Name
and Trade Mark 10.80

C.—WATSON'S ABELOUR
GLENLIVET, Red Cap-
sule, with name and
Trade Mark 12.00

D.—WATSON'S H.K.D., BLEND
OF THE FINEST SCOTCH
MALT WHISKIES, Vio-
let Capsule 14.40

E.—WATSON'S VERY OLD LI-
QUEUR SCOTCH WHISKY,
Gold Capsule 15.00

THORNE'S BLEND and WATSON'S
GLENORCHY are high class Soda
Whiskies, of greater age than most
brands in the market.

ABELOUR-GLENLIVET is a very old
Peat Whisky, (smoky) and could not
now be replaced in stock at the price.

D is well known for its fine
flavour.

E is of superb quality and pro-
nounced by leading local connois-
seurs to be the best brand in the
Hongkong market.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited,
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

Established 1841.

BIRTH.

At Shanghai, China, on the 21st of December,
1898, the wife of W. B. WALTER, of the
Imperial Maritime Customs Service, of a daughter.

For selling revolvers without a valid licence
Sze Lin of 230 Queen's Road was ordered to
pay a fine of \$100.

Work has been commenced upon the line
between Ningpo and Chinkiang under the
superintendence of Sheng Taotai.

The Master of the s.s. *Hanoi*, for neglecting
to cover with a serviceable tarpaulin a deck
cargo of kerosene oil, was fined \$100.

THE King's Own go under canvas on about
the 8th January in order that the barracks may
be clear for the arrival of the new regiment.

A CHINESE Steward on the s.s. *Terrier* took
unto himself three bags of flour, and for the
liberty he was fined \$100, which he willingly
paid.

Five men while crossing the river at Tientsin
in a small boat recently were thrown into the
river and drowned. The high wind prevailing
at the time, drove some floating ice with great
violence against the boat and capsized it.

THE four divisions of the army ordered by
the Filipinos, contained in the Reuter's
telegram which we publish to-day, is indeed
grave, if true. The Filipinos by occupying the
town of Iloilo with the withdrawal of the
Spaniards have virtually become possessed
of the post, for we fail to see how the Spani-
ards could have surrendered to the Americans
when the latter were not present. The
action of General Rios will certainly tend to
complicate matters considerably and it is
much to be regretted that he did not manage
to hold out until such time as the American
forces were ready to take over the town.
There can be little doubt but that the
United States authorities would have pushed
matters forward had they been informed of
the state of affairs and would have arranged
for their troops to march into the place as
the Spaniards moved out. As matters now
stand apparently there will be a question as
to whether the Spaniards surrendered to the
Americans or to the Filipinos and the
already complicated Philippine question will
become still more involved.

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How it will all end is difficult to predict
and it will depend in great measure upon the
spirit in which the Filipinos are approached
on the Iloilo question. So far AGUINALDO
has held his men well in check and has kept
fair order in the provinces held by him and
it would be a thousand pities were the
islands to be once more thrown into the
horrors of war for the want of a little tact and
diplomacy. The Filipinos cannot possibly
hope to defend Iloilo against the Amer-
icans and if the Americans attack the
place there can be but one result. But
with regard to the interior matters will be
different and the Filipinos, knowing the
country and being used to jungle warfare
will be able to hold their own for some con-
siderable time, or at least harass the Amer-
icans to such an extent as to make matters
exceeding unpleasant for them. Had some
definite policy been decided upon by
the United States Government with refer-
ence to the Philippines at the outset such a
state of affairs as has now existed
could never have arisen. As it is, however,
the Americans, by first apparently recognis-
ing the Filipinos and accepting their
aid against the Spaniards and then calmly
ignoring them have placed themselves in an
uncomfortable position. They certainly
revived the insurrection in the islands and
by their subsequent refusal to
recognise the Filipinos in any way turned
the situation into a triangular duel. Had
General MIRRIAM come to an understanding
with the Filipinos when he took command
then affairs might have been on a very
different footing to-day, but as they are we
can only trust that all differences may be
amicably settled and that the islands will not
once again be subjected to the evils of war
which will dislocate trade and bring ruin
upon them.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

LONDON, December 28th.
It has been finally decided to communicate
the secret Dossier to the Cour de Cassation
under conditions which will assure the non-
publication of anything affecting the security
of the State.

The Times Paris Correspondent believes
that the Dossier consists mainly of the reports
of French secret agents abroad, upon which the
accusation of Dreyfus was based. The identity
of the agents revealed in the Dossier causes
the necessity for secrecy.

SPAIN AND THE PHILIPPINES.

It is stated in Madrid that the Spaniards
surrendered Iloilo to the Americans on the
23rd December.

ARMY SHOOTING COMPETITIONS.

The Devonshire Regiment has won the
Queen's cup in the Army Shooting Competi-
tion.

THE PHILIPPINES AND THE
UNITED STATES.

It is officially stated in Washington that
General Rios and his troops evacuated Iloilo
on the 23rd instant and that the Insurgents
occupied the town on the 26th instant. It is
believed that the Americans on arriving will
demand the Insurgents to surrender the City,
thus raising with them the whole issue of the
possession of the Philippines.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Observatory report says—On the 30th
at 11.55 a.m. the barometer has risen in the South
North, and remains almost steady in the South
Pressure is high over N. China, slightly low in
the N. part of the China Sea. Gradients
moderate to rather steep with strong monsoon
on the coast, and in the N. part of the China Sea.
FORECAST:—Fresh N. E. winds; fair.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

SIR Fielding Clarke, Chief Justice of Jamaica,
has returned to Jamaica in the *Cambria*,
from Liverpool.

For selling revolvers without a valid licence
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when the latter were not present. The
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much to be regretted that he did not manage
to hold out until such time as the American
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FOREIGN MEDICAL PRACTITION-
ERS IN JAPAN.

A bill has been introduced in the House of
Representatives by one of the members, pro-
viding for the organization of Associations
of Medical Men, and interdicting the practice
of medicine by any person not a member of such
an association. Approval of the measure has
been announced by the Government Delegate,
and in the statement of reasons attached to the
bill we find an explanation that the measure is
considered necessary in view of the operation
of the Revised Treaties and the possible ad-
vantage of foreign medical practitioners, con-
cerning whose qualifications the general public
can have no knowledge, nor any means of obtaining
knowledge. In short, the Associations are
to assume functions partially similar to
those discharged by the College of Surgeons in
England, for although they can not
lend their services to practices, they

THE STATE PURCHASE OF PRIVATE RAILWAYS.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, through its President, Mr. Shibusawa Yeichi, has addressed a Representation to the Government and a Petition to each House of the Diet urging the advisability of the State's purchasing the four principal private railways. This action on the part of the Chamber is not new. It took similar steps in the time of the Matsukata Cabinet and the last session of the Diet, but the dissolution of the Lower House and the subsequent resignation of the Cabinet defeated the Chamber's purpose. The Representation and the Petitions now forwarded are duplicates of those previously presented, but the Chamber appends a strongly worded covering document in which it declares that the reasons formerly operative are to-day more urgent than ever and that not an hour should be lost in carrying out the project.

The Government is already face to face with the necessity of making a large appeal to the foreign money market. A sum of 170 million yen, in round figures, has still to be raised in connexion with the *post-bellum* programme and the scheme of railway expansion. If to this we add 150 millions—the general estimate is 200 millions—on account of the State's purchase of the four principal private roads, the total sum to be raised abroad becomes 320 million yen. The interest on that amount is 12,800,000 yen, if the loan can be floated at 4 per cent, and 16 million yen if 5 per cent. has to be paid. In other words, 12 million yen now spent annually in the country would flow out of it. Of course, after a time, the greater part of the borrowed money would begin to be productive. Roughly speaking, that would be the case with fully 200 millions out of the 320, and if 6 per cent. were earned on the 200 millions, the interest on the foreign debt would give no trouble. But these borrowings abroad are not entirely *couleur de rose*. We do not mean to suggest that the money market would be frightened or that anything like depression would result from the operation. On the contrary, about 250 millions of the borrowed funds would be spent in the country during the next 15 years, so that, if 12 millions had to be sent abroad in payment of interest, some 17 millions would go into circulation at home, and the difference would more than suffice to perpetuate and accentuate the era of inflated prices. There is another aspect of the matter. If 320 millions be borrowed abroad at 4 per cent., with a preliminary period of 5 years and a redemption period of 50 years, the country will find, at the end of the time, that it has handed back 711 millions in principal and interest to its creditors, thus paying a clear sum of 391 millions for accommodation to the extent of 320 millions. Of course there is still another aspect. Suppose that 70 millions of the borrowed money are devoted to unproductive purposes—military and naval armaments—and 230 millions to productive enterprises which give an average net return of 5 per cent. during 55 years of the 55 year period. Then the total earnings of the various enterprises would aggregate 560 millions, omitting fractions, and so it would appear that the clear gain on the whole transaction is 151 millions. Still nothing can alter the fact that in the sequel of such a transaction, 391 million yen would have flowed out of the country, from which it appears that such operations are not to be undertaken with a light heart.—*Japan Mail*.

JAPANESE JOTTINGS.

(From Japanese Papers.)

THE PUBLICATION OF BOOKS IN JAPAN.

According to a vernacular paper, during last year some 25,000 books were published in Japan. Of this number 5,000 dealt with law and only 1,300 with religion.

THE PRISON EXPENDITURE.

The Liberal party has under consideration a proposal to make a representation to the Government calling for the transfer of prison expenditure from the local to national revenue. It is probable that the motion will be introduced early next month.

A BANDIT SUCCESS IN FORMOSA.

A party consisting of a sergeant and eight privates, who were escorting mails from Sanshoku to Kozon, Formosa, on the 25th ult., was attacked by bandits, who suddenly fired from an ambush. The sergeant and three privates were killed instantly, and the remainder had a very narrow escape.

THE NEW CHINESE MINISTER.

Mr. Li Shing-to, new Chinese Minister to Tokyo, was received in audience by the Emperor on the morning of the 20th inst., when he presented his credentials and also a decoration forwarded to the Emperor. Subsequently Mr. Li was given an audience by the Empress.

OPPOSITION TO A GOVERNOR.

A Tokushimura dispatch states that on the 20th inst. the Tokushimura Prefectural Assembly, having discovered what it believed to be strong evidence that Mr. Yamada, the Governor of the prefecture, had suggested the organization of a movement for increase of the land tax, unanimously adopted a vote of want of confidence in the Governor, and, returning all the Bills before the assembly, dispersed after shouting *Bansui* for the Emperor.

SPECIAL RICE TRANSPORT TRAINS.

The *Osaka Mainichi* states that the Sanyo Railway Company has been running special trains between Hyogo and Nishinomoya for the transportation of rice which has been arriving at Hyogo Station from Banbu and the West to the extent of some 16,000 bags daily. Now that the transport of rice from Banbu is almost finished the cereal is beginning to pour in from Okayama and the neighbourhood.

THE IMPORT OF SALTED FISH.

The Liberals have introduced a Bill into the House of Representatives to amend the new Customs Tariff by striking out the item of salted fish, on which it is proposed to levy a duty of 15 per cent. The object is to encourage the Japanese fishery on the Siberian coasts, which again results in large exports of Japanese goods to Siberia. The vernacular papers call 15 per cent. a prohibitory duty. If such be the case, what are we to say of the duty on whisky, which stands at 40 per cent. or of that on hams, which is 15 per cent? But then, of course, these latter articles are only used by foreigners.

LABOURERS FOR HAWAII.

The Kumamoto Emigration Company has a contract to supply 1,657 labourers for Hawaii, to be dispatched before the close of the year, and emigrants are being engaged from Nagata, Fukushima, Miyagi, Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Okayama, Oita and Fukuoka. The Kumamoto people at one time enjoyed a good reputation in Hawaii, being rated with those from Hiroshima. Since last year, however, it is stated that many Kumamoto people were found to act in a disorderly manner, and therefore no Kumamoto men will be sent for the present. Five hundred and twelve labourers engaged by the Morioka Emigration Company left Kobe by the *Tartar* for Honolulu on the 20th inst.

PEKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE APPOINTMENT OF HU YU-FEN as Director-General of the railroad from Tientsin to Chinkiang is welcomed in all circles in this city. H. E. Hu himself is quite willing to undertake the work and as two responsible corporations are financing the road, its success is assured. Hu's appointment is due to the influence of Li Hung-chang in part, and also due to his successful management as Director-General of the Tientsin-Shauhukuan line.

A DEFENCE OF LI HUNG-CHANG.

The concession recently granted Mr. Pritchard Morgan to explore the mines of Szechuan as well as to build railways necessary for mining enterprises, is also due to the influence of Li Hung-chang. Those persons who have been blackguarding Li as the enemy to all English interests will have to account for the above two facts, as well as account for the granting of the concession to the Anglo-Italian syndicate to work Shansi, before everyone will believe that Li is anti-English as represented. At the present moment he is, after Jung Lu, the most influential man in the Empire. It is a curious coincidence that, immediately after his last interview with the Dowager Empress, Weng Tung-ho and Wu Ta-ching should have been cashiered for ever. The former old fossil was the principal obstacle to progress for many years. The latter, as the edict cashiering him recites, a tremendous boaster with nothing to boast of. Both well deserve their perpetual retirement.

THE TSUNG-LI YAMEN.

The complexion of the Tsungli Yamen at present is one to cause grave concern. It is anti-foreign to the last degree. The Taotai Yuan formerly of Wuhsu, recently added to the body is a particularly disagreeable and insulting man. Hsi Ching-cheng, ex-Minister to Germany, is the only man in the Yamen who knows how to be even decent to the Foreign Ministers. Old Chung Li, the Peking Tzu, who is a member of the Yamen, is just such another fossil as Weng Tung-ho, without Weng's courtly politeness, however. A number of robberies of foreign houses have taken place in the last few months, all of which have in due course been reported to the Tsunli Yamen and by that Yamén referred to the *Tzu*, but we have yet to learn of a single articles being recovered or the loss made good.

STUDIED INACTION.

We recently heard the American Minister say he had reported four robberies of Americans to the Yamen but beyond promises to recover nothing has been done. The gendarmerie of Peking is rotten to the core, more rotten if possible than the usual purely native administration.

THE WALL IS CLOSED.

The Foreign Minister is a bit piqued to find their liberty of walking on the city wall has been curtailed. Several Ministers have recently been refused permission to promenade on the wall. The authorities say the Empress Dowager herself has issued orders forbidding promenading on the wall. This is an annoyance in retaliation for not removing the foreign soldiers.

HEALTH MATTERS.

The three soldiers of the U.S. Marine Guard who have come down with small pox are all being cared for by the sisters at the Nan Tang, and are reported to be doing well. Dr. Dethwe, who was attending them, became ill and it was feared he too had the disease but a few days proved it to be an ordinary attack of fever and he is now about again. A gear-dust of diphtheria exists in the city, due it is said to the remarkably open weather.

THE PROPOSED MUSEUM.

Mr. Gustav Niederlein visited this city last week in the interest of the International Commercial Museum and had an interview with the Tsungli Yamen. They gave him a very lukewarm reception and while protesting their willingness to aid him to the extent of their power, claimed that the country was not ripe yet for extending to any marked degree commercial museum enterprise. However they promised to instruct all the Viceroys and Governors of provinces to aid as far as possible in introducing Mr. Niederlein to the merchants and Taoists in power. Tung Fu-hsiang's Kansu soldiers are reported to be nearly all moved away, but we still see a few of them daily in the Southern city.

WE WONDER WHAT TUNG WILL SAY.

When he learns that Hu Yu-fen is to build another of those cursed railroads, we Pekingers or capitalists as we prefer to be called are beginning to be proud of our Hongkong and Shanghai Bank building. It is time for the Russo-Chinese Bank to imitate or perhaps go one better. We expect to have a lively winter in Peking. Twenty-one English Legation students, seven new young men in the Customs, and eight new professors in.

THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

The latter institution is still unopened, so to speak, but we are informed desks are now nearly completed and the entrance examination about to take place—so be it.—*N. C. D. News Co.*

SOLDIERS & SAILORS INSTITUTE.

The Rev. G. R. Vallings, Chairman, acknowledges with thanks the following donations towards the Fund for new furniture, etc.—

Capt. King-Hall, H.M.S. *Nautilus* \$10
Lt. Comdr. Hon. G. Hardinge, H.M.S. *Rattler* to
Comdr. W. Smythe, H.M.S. *Lynx* 5
Lt. Comdr. Dommer, H.M.S. *Pigmy* 5

NOT A NADA.

CALENDAR.

DECEMBER.

Meteorological means based on ten years' observations to 1893.

Barometer 29.818
Thermometer 80.1
Humidity 77
Rainfall 8.5

TO-DAY.

WEATHER REPORT.

On Sunday at 10 a.m. 4 p.m.

Barometer 30.115 30.04
Thermometer 62 64
Humidity 71 59
Rainfall 5

TO-DAY.

Friday, 30th December, 1898.

Chinese—18th of 11th moon of 24th year of Kwang-shi.

Moon—In Apogee shr. a.m.

High water—Morning 11hr. 58min.

Afternoon 9hr. 46min.

Low water—Morning 8hr. 46min.

Afternoon 5hr. 22min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1852—Porto annexed.

1854—All slaves of the Portuguese Crown declared free.

1874—Prince Alfonso proclaimed King of Spain.

1880—Grand Naval Review at Trafalgar.

1884—Kumamoto Emigration Company left.

1885—Kumamoto Emigration Company has a contract to supply 1,657 labourers for Hawaii, to be dispatched before the close of the year, and emigrants are being engaged from Nagata, Fukushima, Miyagi, Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Okayama, Oita and Fukuoka. The Kumamoto people at one time enjoyed a good reputation in Hawaii, being rated with those from Hiroshima. Since last year, however, it is stated that many Kumamoto people were found to act in a disorderly manner, and therefore no Kumamoto men will be sent for the present. Five hundred and twelve labourers engaged by the Morioka Emigration Company left Kobe by the *Tartar* for Honolulu on the 20th inst.

1886—The State purchase of private railways.

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1932—The State purchase of private railways.

1933—The State purchase of private railways.

1934—The State purchase of private railways.

1935—The State purchase of private railways.

1936—The State purchase of private railways.

1937—The State purchase of private railways.

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